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To:

Instructional Quality Commission, Department of Education, Sacramento, CA

**RE**: <u>CHSSP's Comment 2459</u>; <u>Unnecessary Confusion in the Description</u>, <u>Period of Vedas</u>, and in Inaccuracy Description

I have came to understanding this week of a grave attempt to replace Hinduism by another set words not recognizable by practitioners in my own state's History and Social Sciences Framework, and to add the confusing and inaccurate information.

For now, I am referring to CHSSP's comment 2459, Page 212, lines 819-821 specifically. Current text: "Indian history then entered the Vedic period (ca. 1500-500 BCE), an era named for the Vedas, Sanskrit religious texts passed on for generations through a complex oral tradition."

Suggested change: "Ancient South Asia experienced a Vedic period (ca. 1500-500 BCE), named for the Vedas which were composed in Sanskrit. While Sanskrit texts, both religious and secular, continued to be produced in subsequent centuries, texts in Old Tamil also began to appear around 300 BCE, and Tamil literary production flourished during the Sangam period in South India in following centuries. Sanskrit and Tamil texts passed on for generations through a complex oral tradition."

I call upon you to **REJECT** this suggestion. While thousands of Hindus and non Hindus with Indian origin would provide you with numerous facts and reasons, below are my points behind the ask considering limited time.

- 1. Important point is the suggested change is very confusing on multiple counts (elaborated below)
- 2. In the original passage the intent seems to be describing the age of the Vedic period and the fact that vedic texts were transmitted through oral tradition
- 3. The age of the vedas and their transmission is undisputed in the current text.
- 4. By using "composed in sanskrit" the new text seems to undermine the fact that Vedas were transmitted through oral tradition first.

- 5. By using the word "continued to be produced" the new text introduces the confusion: were they not existing before? Is the narrative of 'produced' the same as created? If not, then is it like crop is raised?
- 6. Mentioning of Tamil and their sangam literary tradition is seems to have been done to confuse the children by bringing unnecessary comparison with Sanskrit. This way multiple language traditions can be brought in. This seems similar to Euro centric approach of Devide And Rule in academia.

Comparing the current text with the suggested change, it is obvious that its intention is to mislead and confuse the publishers, teachers and students who are getting their introduction to world religions in the school for the first time.

Sixth grade children have right of a clear and unambiguous introduction to Hinduism in the California textbooks. Further, California protects heritage from being hijacked by a propoganda.